

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Public Health 250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108-4619

CHARLES D. BAKER Governor

KARYN E. POLITO Lieutenant Governor MARYLOU SUDDERS Secretary

MONICA BHAREL, MD, MPH Commissioner

Re: MCSR System Upgrade December 28 - January 7

December 3, 2018

This is a notice to inform you that the Massachusetts Controlled Substance Registration (MCSR) system is moving to an online system! Physicians, dentists, advanced practice nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and CDTM pharmacists will be able to apply and renew their MCSRs online going forward. The online system will be live on **January 7**, **2019** and it will allow for faster application processing and for credit/debit transactions.

In order to transition to the online system, MCSR will undergo a system upgrade beginning Friday, December 28, 2018 through Monday, January 7, 2019 at 10am. During the scheduled system upgrade period, the Drug Control Program (DCP) will not be able to process initial or renewal applications for the following MCSR types: physician, dentist, advanced practice nurse practitioner, physician assistant, and CDTM pharmacist. However, Verification (Check-a-License) will still be available with data updated as of 2pm on December 28, 2018, and will reflect updated information on January 7, 2019 at 10 am.

<u>Please Note</u>: Licensing by the Board of Registration in Medicine <u>will not</u> be affected by the MCSR system upgrade.

The Drug Control Program strongly encourages registrants who renew between December 28 and January 7 to send in a paper renewal application before December 28. If your renewal application is received before your expiration date, your MCSR will remain valid and will not expire. Please note that your application will be processed after January 7, 2019 if it is received after December 28.

<u>Facilities</u>, <u>Podiatrists</u>, <u>Veterinarians</u>, <u>Optometrists</u>, <u>and Medication Administration Program</u>

Please note, MCSRs for facilities (clinics, hospitals, ambulances, manufacturers, distributors, analytical labs, etc.), podiatrists, veterinarians, optometrists, and the Medication Administration Program *will not be impacted* by the scheduled upgrade.

Initial MCSR Applicants (non-Renewing Individuals)

We encourage new physician, dentist, advanced practice nurse practitioner, physician assistant, and CDTM pharmacist MCSR applicants to wait until January 7, 2019 to apply online. However, new applicants are welcome to submit initial paper applications by mail at any time.

Instructions for Physician Applicants Only

Physicians applying or renewing their MCSRs online will need to create an <u>eGOV</u> account before accessing the online application. Physician registrants will enter their date of birth and social security number to create a new account and retrieve any MCSR information on file.

<u>Physicians who supervise advanced practice providers</u> (APRNs, PAs, and CDTM pharmacists) will need an eGOV account to attest, online, that they have written prescriptive guidelines in place with their advanced practice provider(s).

Starting in December, MCSR registrants are invited to informational webinars to learn how to make an eGOV account and apply and renew online.

Thank you for your patience as we launch online MCSR initial and renewal applications. If you have any questions regarding this notice, or the MCSR System Upgrade, please contact (617) 973-0949 or by email at MCSR@Massmail.State.MA.US.

Sincerely,

Ryan Walker, MPA Acting Director

Massachusetts Controlled Substance Registration